

COUNCIL ON MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS (COMIO)

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***FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) REGARDING
SURVEY SEARCH FOR BEST PRACTICES
CALIFORNIA COUNCIL ON MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS (COMIO) ****

<http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/COMIO/index.html>

Question #1 – Is the Best Practices Program opened to both juvenile and adult projects?

YES, and the applicants may be from courts, probation, mental health departments, community agencies as well as State agencies.

Question #2 – Can one county submit more than one application?

YES. If more than one application is submitted from the same county, each application must stand as an independent and complete submission. Two or more applications referencing portions of other applications will be disqualified. Each must stand on its own.

Question #3 - Are there limitations as to the number of applications from one county?

NO, however, multiple applications do not ensure that any applications from that county will be selected.

Question #5 – Are projects directed by COMIO Council Members permitted?

YES, but the Council member(s) from that county will not be permitted to vote on that particular application.

Question #6 – (In response to question #13 on the application form) / Do attachments and or photographs count as a part of the five-page application limitation?

NO. Accompanying information, statistical data, articles, evaluation results, etc., are permitted as supplementary material, however, judging will be based solely on the completeness and clarity of the project description within the five pages of the application.

Question #7 - Can we discuss our projects with COMIO Members?

Applicants attempting to lobby COMIO members in any manner will be disqualified.

Question #8 – When will we find out the results?

Public announcement of the winner(s) will occur in conjunction with the Forensic Mental Health Association Annual Conference at Seaside in March.

Question #9 - Can previous COMIO Best Practices Award Winners apply?

To allow as much diversity in program selection statewide as possible, COMIO will consider previous winners only if there has been a significant new direction in the project as well as substantial data to indicate effectiveness in that new direction.

Question #10 – Is it possible to get an extension on the survey submission deadline?

No. The deadline for submission will not be extended.

Question #11 – What types of agencies may apply for a COMIO Best Practices Award?

Any public or private, county or state agency that is addressing the mentally ill offender population may apply including community groups, courts, jails, mental health, probation, parole, police and sheriff. A collaboration of these is definitely welcome.

* As additional FAQs are submitted during the application process, they will be added and posted on the COMIO website (see above). Descriptions of previous projects recognized for Best Practices in 2008 are found at this website as well.